(d) To augment power supply in Karnataka, the following steps are being taken:

1. **Capacity Addition**:—It is envisaged to add about 1316 MW in Karnataka apart from 2240 MW under Central Sector in Southern Region from which Karnataka would also have share.
2. Maximization of Import of Power by Southern Region from other regions and Augmentation of Transmission System.
3. Renovation, Modernisation & Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units:—The Government have accorded priority to R&M and Life extension programme to maximize the generation from existing capacity by providing funding under Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP).
4. 100% metering and strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution system in Karnataka by providing funds under APDP.

Installation of Geo-Thermal minor plant at Sarguja district, Chhattisgarh

3144. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) propose to install India's first geo-thermal minor hydel plant at Sarguja District of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, by when the plant is likely to start generating electricity; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to formulate a plan for setting up a network of minor and micro hydel power projects all over the country and especially in Orissa where several rivers can be used for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources (MNES) entrusted the development of the Tattapani Geothermal Fields Project in Sarguja District of Chhattisgarh to the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation. The Project is scheduled to be completed within three years from the date of approval of the revised estimate proposal by MNES.

(c) Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing a number of financial incentive schemes for the development of small hydro

power projects in the country including the State of Orissa. These incentive schemes are: financial support for Detailed Survey & Investigation, Detailed Project Report Preparation, Capital subsidy for Government sector projects and interest subsidy for commercial projects.

Four small hydro power projects aggregating 1.30 MW have been set up in the State of Orissa and 7 projects aggregating 9.93 MW are under implementation. MNES is supporting 8 small hydro projects aggregating 9.7 MW under the capital subsidy scheme.

Reducing land disputes by implementing land reform laws

†3145. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes formulated by Government to reduce the number of land disptues;

(b) whether land disputes will be reduced through implementation of land reforms laws; and

(c) if so, by when the same are likely to come into force in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (c) The land and its management is the responsibility of the respective State Governments as provided under Entry No. 18 List II—State List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The Central Government plays an advisory and co-ordinating role. The Government of India have not formulated any specific scheme to reduce the number of land disputes.

Need for a legislation to regulate use of ground water

3146. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the State Governments have expressed a desire for a legislation to regulate use of ground water in their regions in view of the over exploitation of the ground water;

(b) whether any such Bill or proposal is pending before the Ministry;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.